

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

(Amendments are illustrated by showing deletions ~~by strikethrough~~ and additions by underlining)

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 13-14 to read as follows:

-- In addition to the chemical validation of RIP described above, a genetic validation of RIP in HCMV infection was performed. Wildtype and mutated RIP was expressed in HFF cells with a modified Adenovirus as vehicle (Example 9). The expression of mutated RIP ~~RICK~~, but not wildtype RIP, caused a dramatic reduction in HCMV replication (cf. Fig. 1). These data also confirm RIP as therapeutic target in HCMV treatment.--